



WWW.AZCLIMATECHANGE.US

Agriculture & Forestry TWG Call #4, September 22, 1:30 p.m.

Attendance:

1. TWG members: Bas Aja, Sam Campana, Dan Cunning, Jim Henness, George Koch, Mike Kafka (for Robert Shuler), and Tom Swetnam.
2. ADEQ staff: Kurt Maurer and Marnie Greenbie.
3. CCS staff: Steve Roe and Tom Peterson.
4. Other attendees: none.

Background documents:

1. Agenda: Meeting notice and agenda:
<http://www.azclimatechange.us/ewebeditpro/items/O40F6932.pdf>; CCS Powerpoint presentation for Call #4:
<http://www.azclimatechange.us/ewebeditpro/items/O40F6968.pdf>.
2. Draft Call Summary: Summary of Call #3:
<http://www.azclimatechange.us/ewebeditpro/items/O40F6969.pdf>
3. Updated policy descriptions:
<http://www.azclimatechange.us/ewebeditpro/items/O40F6848.pdf>
4. Other documents as needed: none.

Discussion items and key issues:

1. Prioritization of Forestry Options
 - a. Tom, went through the forestry options with the group to assign overall priorities to each option. The default starting point was that each option was rated as a high priority, unless group members felt that an option needed to be assigned a lower priority. Priorities were assigned to all forestry options.
 - b. Regarding option 6.1 – Forest Protection, Reduced Clearing and Conversion to Nonforest Cover – Bas Aja asked that the summary show his opposition to this option being retained as a priority. He wanted it noted that he believes there are policy implications of woody species encroaching into grasslands. There was considerable discussion around the merits of salt cedar, which increases carbon storage and provides critical habitat but also consumes ample water and can block other tree species.

2. Other Forestry Issues

- a. CCS mentioned that information had been received from Chris Potter at NASA AMES on 1997 carbon pools for AZ. CCS is evaluating these estimates and comparing them to the FIA based data used to estimate carbon flows (sinks).
- b. CCS is still trying to determine if Mike Wilson of USFS can provide more background on FIA data during the next call after the CCAG meeting. S. Roe received wood removal data from Steve Gatewood covering national forests. An attempt was also made with the BIA contact (John Philbin) for removals on Tribal lands. The contact was out, but an assistant indicated that the data were available. CCS will make another attempt before the next call.

3. Prioritization of Agricultural Options

- a. Steve Roe went through the agricultural options with the group for an assignment of prioritization for further analysis. As with the forestry options, each option's initial prioritization was assumed to be high. Changes to lower prioritization were made based on comments from group members. A prioritization was made to each option.

Next steps and agreements:

1. Document updates
 - a. Option Matrix: the options matrix will be revised to include all priority designations.
2. CCAG meeting: September 29, 2005, 1 to 5 p.m. at the Salt River Project Headquarters; High and medium priority options will be presented to the CCAG.
3. Next Call: To be decided after the CCAG meeting. Notices to be sent out via email. The intent is to set a regular schedule of calls possibly on Thursdays of the second and fourth weeks of the month.

List of Attachments (none)